GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2530
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2017
Concerns of Exporters
Bala Smt. Anju;Sreeramulu Shri B.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has discussed the concerns of exporters and is engaged in intensive interdepartmental consultations with the Department of Revenue and the Ministry of Finance on concerns related to GST;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Ministry has directed its officers to consider all the issues appropriately for Mid-Term Review of Foreign Trade Policy and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the Ministry is planning to approach the GST Council to restore some of the lost benefits of exporters due to changes made in existing incentive schemes to align them with GST and if so, the details thereof;
(e) whether the Ministry has given representation before the World Bank regarding India's placement in its 'Doing Business' 2017 report and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the World Bank thereto; and
(f) the major steps being taken by the Ministry for business and industry sector amid confusion about GST?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. Meetings and inter-departmental consultations are being held regularly to address the concerns of exporters related to GST.
(c) Efforts are made to address the concerns of the exporters on a regular basis to the extent possible. A comprehensive review is undertaken during the mid-term review of the Foreign Trade Policy.
(d) The issues raised by the exporters which are under the jurisdiction of the GST Council are taken up for its consideration. The representation received from the trade associations have been forwarded for the consideration of the Council.

(e) The World Bank team interacts with the Government as well as private organisations to gather data for use in its Doing Business report regarding reforms undertaken by the Central & State Governments. The reforms are informed to the World Bank's "Doing Business Team" for inclusion in the report regularly. India has improved its rank during the last two years with significant improvement under the electricity parameter.
(f) Government has adopted a multipronged strategy to make people aware of the details of the GST. This includes extensive use of TV, Radio and Newspapers to reach the people in cities and rural India. All ministries have launched ambitious outreach programmes for resolving the issues faced at the field level. The GST awareness campaign led by Central Board of Excise and Customs alone has so far conducted more than 4000 outreach programs across the country. In addition, Sectoral guidebooks and FAQs have been placed on the websites of the departments.
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